any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner.

Pakistan has denied that Sheikh Rashid had been running terrorist training camps.

China's dominance in Nepal

†1932. SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dominance of China has increased tremendously in Nepal and anti-India atmosphere is building up there after the transfer of power in the hands of royalty;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that China is giving military help to Nepal;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to deal with this situation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Government of India is aware of reports suggesting that some military supplies have been set by China to Nepal or are under consideration. Both countries have been sensitized to our views in this regard. Government is closely monitoring the issue and will take steps as appropriate.

India and Nepal share a long tradition of cordial and mutually beneficial relations both at Governmental and people-to-people levels. We remain committed to support all efforts for the restoration of multi-party democracy and political and economic stability in Nepal.

Agreement with Pakistan to exchange fishermen

1933. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have signed any agreements with regard to exchange of fishermen who have been detained;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these agreements are being implemented presently; and

(d) what steps are being taken to ensure speedy release of fishermen caught by the maritime agencies of both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The matters regarding release of Indian fishermen in Pakistan and their boats are consistently taken up with Pakistan Government through diplomatic channels, both in Islamabad and New Delhi, and during high level contacts from time to time.

During the Foreign Secretary level talks held on December 27-28, 2004 at Islamabad it was agreed that immediate notification would be provided to the respective High Commissions through the Foreign Ministries of the arrested Indian/Pakistani nationals, consular access would be given to all the civilian prisoners (including fishermen) held in each other's country within three months from the date of their arrest and repatriation would be done immediately after completion of sentence and nationality verification.

During the visit of External Affairs Minister to Pakistan from February 15-17, 2005 and during the visit of President of Pakistan to India from April 16-18, 2005, the issue of early release and repatriation of all the Indian fishermen along with their boats was taken up.

Representations regarding detention of fourteen Indians

1934. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations regarding the detention of fourteen Indians in Pakistan who were employed on foreign fishing vessels;

(b) if so, the present status of these fourteen Indians;

(c) whether our High Commission in Pakistan has initiated steps to secure their release; and